THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The stocks in the Central Pool as on 1.11.93, 1.11.94 and 1.11.95 were as under:

(In Million Tonnes)

	1.11.93 (P)	1.11.94 (P)	1.11.95 (P)
Wheat	12.94	14.98	15.77
Rice	8.26	15.44	12.41
Total	21.20	30.42	28.18

(b) The Cost of maintaining foodgrains stocks and loss due to damage for last three years are as follows:

Rs/Crores

Year	Cost of Maintenance	Loss due to damage
1992-93	450.69	—
1993-94	1245.34	7.24
1994-95	1853.48	38.53

(c) Arrival of foodgrains in the mandis depend on various factors such as production, open market prices, support price fixed by the Government etc., and therefore it is not Possible to assess the market arrival for the coming years. Further, procurement of foodgrains (wheat, paddy & coarsegrains) for Central Pool under price support scheme being totally voluntary and the procurement of levy rice from millers/traders being dependent on quantum of paddy purchased by them, not targets, as such, can be fixed for procurement of wheat and rice.

(d) As per the extent EXIM Policy, export of both Basmati and non-Basmati rice is allowed freely. Export of wheat products and hybrid jowar produced as kharif crop is also freely allowed. Export of wheat, coarse grains and pulses are allowed subject to quantitative ceilings released from time to time. The export ceilings released for 1995-96 in respect of durum wheat, non-durum wheat, coarse grains and pulses are 5 lakh tonnes, 25 lakh tonnes, 30,000 tonnes and 10,000 tonnes respectively. The EXIM Policy on foodgrains is decided in such a way that it does not adversely affect the food security of the country.

As regards export from public stocks is concerned, in view of the comfortable stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool, Government has authorised the Food Corporation of India to export/sell for the purpose of export 2.5 million tonnes of non-durum wheat and 2 million tonnes of fine and superfine rice (since decided to be increased to 3 million tonnes) during 1995-96.

Unworkable Coal Mines

2164. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the coal mines that are not worked by coal industry as on date;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for which these coal mines are being left unworkable creating a huge national loss to the country as well as to the concerned State, because, the States are being denies royalty thereon;

(d) whether Government will consider to allot such unworkable mines to private parties; if necessary, by bringing another Amendment of the Act on this issue; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) As per the latest information available, 30 coal mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) are not producing coal at present. Apart from exhaustion of reserves, the mines have been closed due to fire, flooding, adverse geo-mining conditions, economic unviability and safety considerations.

(c) Efforts are made to re-open the mines wherever feasible. Wherever this is not possible the manpower is redeployed elsewhere to increase production in the other mines, thus minimising the loss on account of closed mines.

(d) No, sir.

(e) Where the mines are unworkable, it will not be desirable to offer them to private parties because it may compromise safety and environmental considerations. In addition, the working of private mines in the vicinity of public sector mines can also cause operation problems.

Awareness regarding Consumer Movement

2165. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the cooperation of consumer associations, the consumer movement in the country is piking up;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the vested interests campaigning against the utility of consumerism and consumer courts; and

(c) the number of such cases detected during the last two years and nature of action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Representations from various sections of the society expressing their views for and against the consumerism and consumer courts are received in this Ministry. These views are ekamined objectively and Government takes appropriate decision in the matter. There is no mechanism to check the authenticity of these representations.

उत्तर प्रदेश में बन्द औद्योगिक एकक

2166. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह:

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश में बन्द हो चुके अथवा बन्द होने के कगार पर पहुंच चुके औद्योगिक एककों का स्थान-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) ये एकक कब से बन्द हैं अथवा बन्द होने की स्थिति में हैं तथा इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) इन औद्योगिक एककों को पुनः चालू करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं,

(घ) इन एककों के बन्द होने के कारण कितने कर्मचारी व श्रमिक बेरोजगार हो चुके हैं, और

(ङ) इन एककों में कार्यरत श्रमिकों को राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा दी गई वित्तीय सहायता का ब्यौरा क्या है?